### FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

A LITTLE HERO.

now Bennie Moran Rescued His Little Sister From a Burning House. The saver of human life stands in the front rank of heroes. And the hero whose name is on every tongue in the city of Detroit is Bennie Moran, a little boy of 3 years, who is a hero at an age when most children are slumbering in

their mothers' arms. . Bennfe, however, like many another hero who kas risked life and limb in efforts to rescue the helpless, takes the honors Heaped spon him by admiring friends in a modest way and thinks that when he carried his little 2-year-old sister from his father's burning house he did little more than any other boy

It took but a few short seconds for Bennie to perform this act that will bring him glory through all his days. It was on Tuesday, Nov. 17, late in the afternoon, when Mrs. Moran kneed her 'two babes as they lay playing upon the



kitchen floor and started for a nearby store. The children were alone in the bouse, and what happened between the time Mrs. Moran left and the fire company dashed up to the blazing house in response to an alarm of fire was gleaned from the little hero bit by bit after the excitement had subsided.

Bennie, tired of playing on the kitchen floor, shortly after his mother left opened a door leading into the back yard, with the intention of going out there to play. A sudden puff of wind from the open door caught the curtains at a window near a lighted gasoline stove, and in an instant they were ignited. The frightened child looked back and in a moment saw the entire wall blazing with fire. He then remembered the oft repeated warnings from his father about fire and started for the side door with the intention of escaping into the street. The door was locked, but he quickly found the key, unlocked the door and run out into the street. And then, out in the clear air, free from the smoke and flame, he commenced to think. His little sister was in there, and the flames were oreeping closer and

. He hesitated not an hostant, but started to enter the house once more. He was met by a cloud of flame and smoke at the door. Not for a moment did he falter, but plunged in headlong; with only one thought in his mind, and that his little baby sister. He groped his way to the center of the room through the stifling air and found her sitting on the floor, crying softly in a frightened way. He placed his arms around her and, half carrying, half dragging, brought her to and left her safe in the street.

He did not consider his duty performed yet, however, and started for a neighvoice: "Fire! Fire! Papa's house is burning up!" The entire neighborhood was quickly aroused, and, with the aid of the fire company, which appeared on the scene shortly, the flames were extinguished. Had it not been for the little hero's presence of mind and his knowl-



would his baby sister have perished it the crael flames, but his father's house ing heap of black and charred ruins.

a stairway of flames.

The Misspelled Tale.

A little buoy said: "Mother, deer,
May Eye go out to play? The son is bright, the heir is clear. Owe, mother, don't say neigh!

The ant said: "Take your slay— Your gneissknew sled, awl painted read, But dew know lose your weigh." 'Ah, know!" he cried and sought the street With hart sew full of glee. The wether changed, and snow and sleet

And reign fell steadily. Threw spowdrifts grate, threw watery pool He flue with mite and mane. Said he, "Though Hye would walk by rule, Eye am not site, "tis plane.

For hear gnu dangers weight, And youder stairs a treacherous whole. Two sloe has been my gate.

"A peace of bred, a gneiss hot stake, Eye'd chews if Eye were home. This grewel fate my hart would brake. Eye love not thus to Rome.

Eye, week and pail, have missed my rode. But hear a carte came passed. He and his sled were safely toad Back to his home at last. -Richmond Central Presbyterian.

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ACCOUNT OF A HOAX.

STORY OF THE MOHICAN'S LOSS THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN.

How "Lying Tom Barrett" Came to Tell the Yarn-A Rivalry Had Grown Up Among the Munchausens, but the Mohican Lie Was a Little Too Much.

Very many persons may remember he story that was telegraphed and da- man for eggs. led all over the world in the summer of 1895 of the sinking of the United States revenue cutter Mohican by the British seal pirate Belle of the Pacific mewhere in that indefinite part of the orth Pacific ocean known to all Alaskabs as "the westward." Not so many probably will remember that the story was a fake, because it is the lamentable history of such things that the truth never completely overtakes the lie. It was a lie out of whole cloth, as was emonstrated when the Mohican turned p all right that fall at the end of the atrol season, but the manner of its pub-

cation has not been told. This lie began to have its being years level. ago when the steamers first began to ake tourists from "down below," as Alaskans call the States, up through the orgeous scenery, of the north Pacific ast line for a peep at the northern tertory. As a usual thing the tourists end eight or ten hours ashore at Juan and as much more in Sitka Somemes they make a dash up to Muir gla

r Altogether they see a lot of the untry in a paneramic sort of way, and ey hear a great deal more about it. It one of the lands where the blindest is applied for the surgical arrest of offs hold good and the wildest tales bleeding. true. So when they get back to the ates again, the tourists begin to unid to their friends and their friends' ends and to their acquaintances and anybody who will listen, particularly evercredulous newspaper men, the idest tales that human ingennity cart

For a long time the Alaskans did peir best to chase down these lies, but ey failed. The liar had all the advanues of telegraphs and daily mails and widespread publicity given by the o credulous newspaper men. Then the laskans gave up the direct attack and ok up the gentle art of lying themives. They had so much time to prace when there was nothing else to inrfere that every two weeks, when the states. The steamship men were always | country was in 1785, in which year 1 he medium through which these stories were communicated to the credulous

public of Oregon, Washington and California. These steamship men rapidly equired a large reputation with the readers of thrilling newspaper accounts f brave newspaper deeds. The people on the Pacific coast seem to be singularter salted or frozen meat is offered. y open minded and receptive. But even they caught on after awhile to the fact that the Alaskans were jollying them. Then resentment took the natural form, and you couldn't find a Pacific coast man with a horse rake who would believe an Alaska steamship man's story if the parrator was literally incased in

It developed through the somewhat general competition that as a compounder of able tales Tom Barrett was easily utes. at the head. He won his distinction and the door and then out into the open air his title at the same time, springing from comparative obscurity in the ranks | olic church next to the pope. Cardinals of liars by one successful coup. Barrett was in the employ of a trading company bor's house, crying at the top of his at the westward. He rolled into Sitka cardinal deacons. one day with the most astonishing stoies of the auxiferous riches of Middleon island, a little chunk of rock and sand that had been beaved up above the water by some submarine volcanic eruption far out in the middle of the north Pacific ocean. All Alaska that could go started for Middleton island on the strength of Barrett's yarns, and all Alaska that couldn't go grub staked omebody who could. When the excitement was over and those who went to Middleton island had got back and those who didn't go were out their grub stakes, the man who had started the rush spontaneously became known to all

Alaska as "Lying Tom Barrett." "Lying Tom Barrett" told the yarn bout the Mobican to the newspaper man Port Townshend, who telegraphed column of it to his paper in Seattle and started it around the world. Barrett was coming down from Alaska and on the way put up the job with the steamship men to spring a yarn that steeple is ascended and the landscape should make a sensation in the States. The steamship men knew they couldn't make it go themselves, but they agreed to back Barrett up in whatever he said would have been reduced to a smolder and to give him a good send off if there was effort at verification. So when the Mr. Moran says this is Bennie's sec- steamer put in at Port Townshend, Barond experience. A little over a year ago rett got himself interviewed, and the his sister and mother, with Bennie, had next day the world was reading "Capa narrow escape from death by fire. | tain Thomas Barrett's" remarkable sto-They escaped only by the mother carry- ry of the loss of the Mohican. When ing them over a burning floor and down | the yarn got back to Juneau and Sitka. there were some Alaskans who laughed mightily at the hoax, but others, who knew the officers of the Mobican thought of the cruelty of it to the relatives and friends of the cutter's men, and on the whole Barrett's story did not meet with the approval even of the liars. That was carrying the thing too far. Harmless stories about islands of gold or im possible customs of unheard of people were well enough, but this lie turned

ing Tom' to them. - New York Sun.

A Rossini Mot. Arditi prints in his reminiscences a pleasant little mot of Rossini. When Mme. Arditi was first presented to him, "Now I know why Arditi composed 'Il and cordially offered him as a souvenir "one of my wigs," which were arranged on stands on the chiffonier.

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FACTS IN A FEW LINES.

Elephants are fond of gin, but will not touch champagne. Next year will see the thirteenth cen-

the new Hotel Cecil in London there is a telephone in each room. Newsboys on bicycles are the latest form of newspaper enterprise in London. Granulated fresh bone and steamed ent hay are recommended by a poultry

Sanflower cake has been found, especially in Russia, one of the best auxil-American ebony is one of the heaviest

woods known, weighing 83.18 pounds to the cubic foot. A meteorite which fell in Australia ecently had a mass of pure copper im-

A dictionary recently published in England devotes 1716 columns to the various meanings of the word "devil." The highest inhabited building in Europe is the Alpine clubhouse, on Mount Rosa-12,000 feet above the sea

Quoits, as a game, are said to have riginated with the Greeks and to have een first played at the Olympic games

Ladies' bicycles are now turned out in England with charming bags, holding many dainty articles, such as mirror, powder puff and perfume bottle. Mr. Lawson Tait, the well known Birmingham doctor, has designed an instrument whereby the electric current

A foreign applicant for a patent in the United States must make the neces sary oaths and affidavits before a minister, consul or commercial agent of the

The government of South Australia have contracted with the Orient and the Peninsular and Oriental companies for the carriage of butter for two years at 3 farthings a pound.

There is a shrub in Spain called the toothpick bishop weed, because the rays of the main umbel form thorny toothpicks when dried. A specimen in Kew gardens has 51,000 rays. The tooth of a mastodon in an al-

most complete state of preservation has been recently unearthed. It weighed 14 mailboat came in, a fine new crop of pounds 12 ounces and measured 10 inch-The first exports of cotton from this

> pool, while 12 were sent from Philadelphia and I from New York. Every guest at a Norwegian wedding orings the bride a present. In many parts a keg of butter is the usual gift, and if the marriage takes place in win-

bag was sent from Charleston to Liver-

From rough calculations lately made by the contributors to The Zoological Record, it appears that over 360,000 species of animals have been described by naturalists up to the present date. The largest bell in France has been

hung in the belfry of the Church of the Sacred Heart in Paris. It weighs 28 tons, can be heard at a distance of 25 miles, and its vibration lasts six min-The title and position of cardinal is

the highest dignity in the Roman Cathare divided into three classes-6 cardinal bishops, 50 cardinal priests and 14 J. E. Gore, writing of the solar system, says that "enormously large as the

with the size of our own earth, it is, compared with the size of the visible universe, merely as a drop in the ocean. The ancient Greeks, to secure resonance without the use of woodwork, placed under the seats of their theaters earthen pots, with the mouth turned toward the stage, the vibrating mass of air in these serving to re-enforce the

By the slaughter of elephants in Africa an annual profit of some £1,000,000 is realized. If the elephants, instead of being left a prey to the hunter, were tamed, they would bring an annual

Some idea of the vast extent of the surface of the earth may be obtained when it is noted that if a lofty church visible from it looked at, 900,000 such landscapes must be viewed in order that the whole earth may be seen.

National flowers have been adopted n various countries, as follows: Greece, violet : Canada, sugar maple; Egypt, lotus; England, rose; France, flower-deluce; Germany, cornflower; Ireland, shamrock; Italy, lily; Prussia, linden; Saxony, mignonette; Scotland, thistle;

Spain, pomegranate; Wales, leek. The very peculiar theory has of late been propounded that all women who partake to any extent of malt drinks have large feet. The women of Holland, Germany and even England are quoted as examples, while the women of the wine countries-France, Spain and Itatheir small and shapely feet.

A trip between London and Paris was recently made in 6 hours and 32 minntes. From London to Dover, 78.34 the tide in favor of truthfulness, and miles, took 1 hour and 22 minutes; the now Alaskans are more circumspect in passage of the channel, 25 miles, took their stories about the territory. But hour and 15 minutes, and the run Barrett will never be anybody but "Lyfrom Calais to Paris, 185 1/2 miles, was LIGHTING average of 56.5 miles, excluding stops. Pneumatic tubes have many uses, but one of the latest is attracting a great deal of attention from its novelty. This the great composer bowed and said, is the tube for stacking straw. It is built in sections and is controlled by metal Bacio' ('The Kiss')." Again, when Ar- straps, pivots and arms. The straw is diti had done Rossini some trifling serv- drawn into the tube, carried through it ice, the composer was profuse in thanks | with great velocity, and, by a turntable and swinging arrangement like a crane, is evenly distributed on the stack.

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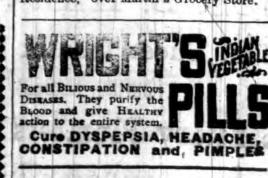
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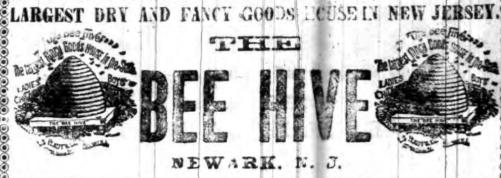
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